

Appln No. 09/699,031
Amdt date March 29, 2004
Reply to Office action of December 29, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office action of December 29, 2003. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 1-7, 11, 13, 14, 16 and 22-25 are pending in the application. Applicant thanks the Examiner for attending to the application.

Independent claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,021,371 issued to Fultz.

Fultz, referring to FIG. 1, states "[m]obile unit 2 can be used to transmit an inquiry to base station as illustrated by arrow 3 [of FIG. 1]. ... As shown by arrow 4 the requested information is then transmitted from base station 1 to mobile unit 2." See Fultz, col. 5, lines 38-47. Fultz, in col. 6, lines 7-14, states "[i]nquiries, represented by arrows 3 and 5 includes location data which gives the location of the mobile unit. ... The location data, coupled with the users request allows the requested information to be easily provided to mobile unit 2 without the user having to give his location verbally to the base station 1."

Thus, it appears that in Fultz, as an inquiry is transmitted from a mobile unit 2 to a base station 1, mobile unit location and direction coordinates are provided with the inquiry. The base station 1 responds to the inquiry by transmitting the response 4 to the mobile unit 2 as illustrated in FIG. 1 of Fultz. However, Fultz does not appear to further transmit the response 4 from the mobile unit 2 to any other communication units, such as an auxiliary service provider 10.

Appln No. 09/699,031
Amdt date March 29, 2004
Reply to Office action of December 29, 2003

More specifically, Fultz, in col. 5, lines 48-57, states "[i]nquiries or request for service may also be transmitted to an auxiliary service provider such as auxiliary service provider 10. ... As shown by arrow 5, an inquiry is transmitted directly to auxiliary service provider 10 from mobile unit 2. Referring to FIG. 1, auxiliary service provider 10 responds to the inquiry or request as shown by arrow 6 by communicating directly with mobile unit 2."

Thus, in Fultz, the mobile unit 2 transmits a separate inquiry 5, that is independent from the inquiry 3 and the response 4 between the base station 1 and the mobile unit 2, to the auxiliary service provider 10. The inquiry 5 also includes the mobile unit location and direction coordinates. In response 6 to the inquiry 5, the mobile unit 2 receives the requested information from the auxiliary service provider 10. It also appears that the response 6 is not further transmitted from the mobile unit 2 to any other communication units, such as the base station 1.

Independent claim 1, as amended, recites:

determining a tag location; requesting, by the personal computer device, information from an external server concerning the tag location; receiving, by the personal computer device, the information, including non-coordinate information concerning the tag location, from the external server; and providing, by the personal computer device, the received information, including the non-coordinate information concerning the tag location, to a remote computer system having a database residing in a memory.

The Office action states that Fultz teaches:

Appln No. 09/699,031
Amdt date March 29, 2004
Reply to Office action of December 29, 2003

requesting (inquiry), by the personal computer device (mobile unit 2) (col. 5, lines 38-39) information from an external server (based station 1) concerning the tag location (mobile or user location) (col. 5, lines 38-54); receiving the information from the external server (auxiliary service provider 10 responds to the inquiry or request) (col. 5, lines 55-66); and providing the information to a computer system having a database residing in memory (col. 6, lines 11-16).

See action pg. 2-3. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office action statement above. In Fultz, if an inquiry is transmitted from a mobile unit 2 to a base station 1, only the base station 1 responds to the inquiry or request, not an auxiliary service provider 10. Only when a separate inquiry is made to the auxiliary service provider 10, the auxiliary service provider 10 responds to the separate inquiry or request.

Moreover, in Fultz, there is no disclosure or suggestion as to "providing by the personal computer device, the received information, including the non-coordinate information concerning the tag location, to a remote computer system having a database residing in a memory" as recited in amended claim 1. In Fultz, as previously discussed, Fultz's mobile unit 2, does not provide the received information or response to any other communication units including the base station 1 and the auxiliary service provider 10. Thus, even if the base station 1 or the auxiliary service provider 10 is interpreted to be a "remote computer system having a database residing in a memory," Fultz still does not disclose or suggest "providing...the received information, including the non-coordinate information concerning the tag

Appln No. 09/699,031
Amdt date March 29, 2004
Reply to Office action of December 29, 2003

location, to a remote computer system having a database residing in a memory" as recited in amended claim 1.

In addition, even if the Office action's interpretation of "the tag location" of claim 1 as a user or mobile location as described in Fultz (see action pg. 3) is maintained, the user or mobile location as described in Fultz merely includes mobile unit location and direction coordinate information. See Fultz, col. 6, lines 7-16. The user or mobile location information of Fultz is obtained from position determination data from Global Positioning System (GPS) satellites, which is then processed by position signal processing circuitry in the mobile unit 2 of Fultz. See Fultz, col. 6, lines 17-26. The user or mobile location obtained from GPS satellites does not comprise "non-coordinate information concerning the tag location" as recited in claim 1. Moreover, as previously discussed, the mobile unit 2 of Fultz does not further forward the received information to any other communication units. Thus, the user or mobile location information of Fultz cannot include any information received, including coordinate and non-coordinate information, in response to an inquiry transmitted from the mobile unit 2. Accordingly, claim 1 appears to be allowable over Fultz. Claims 2-7, depending on claim 1, are also therefore allowable.

Independent claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,754,938 issued to Herz et al.

Herz, in col. 5, lines 19-26, states:

Because people have multiple interests, a target profile interest summary for a single user must represent multiple areas of interest, for

Appln No. 09/699,031
Amdt date March 29, 2004
Reply to Office action of December 29, 2003

example, by consisting of a set of individual search profiles, each of which identifies one of the user's areas of interest. Each user is presented with those target objects whose profiles most closely match the user's interests as described by the user's target profile interest summary.

It would appear that, in Herz, all of the profiles are individualized for a single user, solely representing the user's interests.

Independent claim 11 recites:

receiving a request for data from a database; receiving a profile identification associated with the request for data from the database, the profile identification identifying a profile, the profile being associated with a user, the user having multiple profiles associated with the user, the multiple profiles including a profile including information about the user and a standard profile, the standard profile being a standardized profile made available for selection by the user; forming search criteria for a search of the database, the search criteria including details of the request for data and details of a profile identified by the profile identification; and locating data fulfilling the search criteria.

The Office action states:

Herz does not explicitly teach receiving a profile identification associated with the request for data from the database, the profile identification identifying a profile, the profile being associated with a user, the user having multiple profiles associated with the user, the multiple profiles including a profile including information about the user and a standard profile, the standard profile being a

Appln No. 09/699,031
Amdt date March 29, 2004
Reply to Office action of December 29, 2003

standardized profile made available for selection by the user.

Office action, pg. 6. However, the Office action also states that "[t]his implication [by Herz] teaches ...the individual search profile is the standard profile for the user to use in the search." Office action, pg. 6. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office action statement above. The individual search profile of Herz does not include a standard profile as recited in claim 11. The standard file is "a standardized profile made available for selection by the user," which is different from an individual search profile that is an individualized profile representing a single user's interest.

For example, the Specification of the application, in pg. 6, lines 25-28, states "[t]he third profile differs in that the third profile is a standard profile. In other words, the third profile is a standardized profile made available for selection by users so that users may avoid the necessity of creating their own profile." Moreover, the Specification of the application, in pg. 9, lines 12-15, states, "[f]or example, college age males have one [standard] profile with standardized information, and male senior citizens have a different [standard] profile with different standardized information." Thus a standard profile of claim 1 having standardized information does not include individualized information representing a single user's interests. Accordingly, claim 11 appears to be allowable over Herz. Claims 13, 14, and 16, depending on claim 11, are also therefore allowable.

Appln No. 09/699,031
Amdt date March 29, 2004
Reply to Office action of December 29, 2003

Independent claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Herz.

Herz states, in col. 26, lines 17-19, "[o]ne use of these searching techniques is to search for target objects that match a search profile from a user's search profile set." In addition, Herz also states, in col. 5, lines 23-26, "each user is presented with those target objects whose profiles most closely match the user's interests as described by the user's target profile interest summary." It appears that Herz discloses searching for target objects that match a user's profile set.

Claim 22 recites:

receiving a request for data from a database; receiving a profile identification associated with the request for data from the database, the profile identification identifying a profile, the profile being associated with a user, the user having multiple profiles associated with the user, the multiple profiles including a profile including information about the user and a copied profile, the copied profile being, when created, a copy of another profile associated with the user; forming search criteria for a search of the database, the search criteria including details of the request for data and details of a profile identified by the profile identification; and locating data fulfilling the search criteria.

The Office action states that in Herz, "[t]he profile interest summary is the multiples user profiles. The copied profile is the single search profile that the user uses to search for information, single search profile search a copied profile or profile that shares some of the similarity of the profile interest summary." Office action, pg. 7. Applicant

Appln No. 09/699,031
Amdt date March 29, 2004
Reply to Office action of December 29, 2003

respectfully disagrees with the Office action statement above. A copied profile of claim 22 is not merely a profile that shares the similarity of the profile interest summary representing multiple areas of interest. See Herz, col. 5, lines 19-26. A copied profile as recited in claim 22 is different from other profiles in that it is an exact copy of one of the other profiles. A copied profile has been specifically made to be edited or added to meet the specific needs of the user. For example, in the Specification of the application, pg. 7, lines 4-18, states:

In addition, profiles may be copied. Copying of profiles is beneficial as the copied profile may be thereafter edited or added to, or have other operations under the profile. A user having a copied profile is illustrated by a third user 41. The third user accesses the database using a fourth profile 47, a fifth profile 45 and a copied sixth profile 43. The fourth and fifth profiles are, like the profiles of the first and second users, profiles pertaining to the individual user. The copied sixth profile of the third user is copied version of the fifth profile. When created, therefore, the sixth profile is merely a copy of the fifth profile. Over time, however, the user may adjust and adapt the copied profile to suit other needs. This allows the user to use the information contained in the original profile, but allows modification to meet specific needs of the user.

Thus, a single search profile of Herz does not disclose or suggest a copied profile in the context of claim 22. Accordingly, claim 22 is allowable in view of Herz, as are dependent claims 23-25.

**Appln No. 09/699,031
Amdt date March 29, 2004
Reply to Office action of December 29, 2003**

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of the application and allowance of claims 1-7, 11, 13, 14, 16 and 22-25 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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KMG IRV1075657.1--03/29/04 9:44 AM